

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (Currently amended). Chewable articles for animals, ~~typically for household pets such as household~~ dogs and cats, the articles being made from inulin or comprising mixtures of inulin and/or oligofructans with thermoplastic polymers.

Claim 2 (Original). Chewable articles according to Claim 1, produced from thermoplastically processable inulin or from mixtures of inulin and/or oligofructans with thermoplastic polymers.

Claim 3 (Cancelled).

Claim 4 (Currently amended). Chewable articles according to Claim 10 [[3]], in which the biodegradable polymer is selected from the group consisting of comprising starch in its natural, chemically modified, or physically modified forms, aliphatic polyesters, ethylene vinyl alcohol or vinyl acetate copolymers, polyvinyl alcohol, aromatic aliphatic copolymers, polyamides, and polyester polyamide copolymers.

Claim 5-6 (Cancelled).

Claim 7 (Currently amended). Chewable articles according to Claim 12 [[6]], in which the plasticizer is sorbitol or glycerol.

Claims 8-9 (Cancelled).

Claim 10 (Currently amended). Chewable articles according to Claim 1, in which the thermoplastic polymer is selected from the biodegradable polymers.

Claim 11 (Previously presented). Chewable articles according to Claim 1, in which the quantity of inulin and/or oligofructans present in the mixtures with thermoplastic polymers is between 10 and 20% by weight.

Claim 12 (Previously presented). Chewable articles according to Claim 1, in which the inulin and the mixtures of inulin and/or oligofructans with thermoplastic polymers are rendered thermoplastically processable by extrusion at temperatures of between 80 and 200°C in the presence of water and/or a plasticizer containing hydroxyl groups.

Claim 13 (Previously presented). Chewable articles according to Claim 1, in the form of bones for dogs.

Claim 14 (Previously presented). A thermoplastically processable material comprising mixtures of inulin and/or oligofructans with thermoplastic polymers.

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Claim 15 (Cancelled).